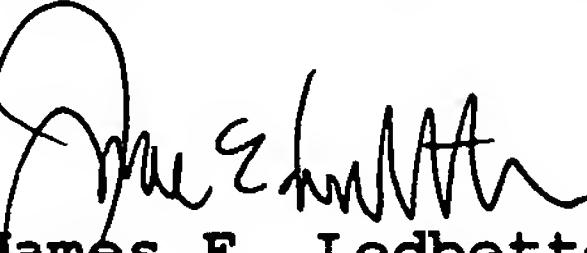


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-22 in favor of new claims 23-45.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: September 27, 2006

JEL/spp

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